

13 December 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Summary of Situation in the Republic of the Congo

1. Background

Failure of the United Nations to resolve the Katanga secession has led to a strong move in the Congo Parliament to replace the Adoula Government with one committed to take forceful measures against Katanga outside of the U.N. context, possibly with Bloc or radical African support. (Bloc offers of assistance are unconfirmed.) Failure of U.N. and inability of Congolese Government to provide air cover to Congolese troops in North Katanga was an important element in bringing this situation to a head. So far, Adoula and his supporters have managed to stay in the saddle, and are now considering means of dissolving Parliament by constitutional means reinforced by a demonstrated willingness of the Army to support the Government.

2. Policy Problems

State has been divided on (1) whether to support the Adoula Government should forceful means be decided upon in dissolving Parliament, (2) whether to seek a replacement for Adoula, (3) degree of pressure to be exercised on Belgium to persuade the Belgian mining firm, UMHK, to pay taxes and foreign exchange to the Central instead of the Katangan Government, and (4) degree of U.N. pressures to be exerted on Katanga to obtain Tshombe's agreement to the U.N. Reconciliation Plan. The Plan calls for economic sanctions against Katanga at this point, and initial moves have been taken to implement sanctions. Acting Secretary of State Ball is to meet with the President this afternoon to consider these questions, as well as a JCS recommendation that the USAF furnish a squadron of jet fighters to the U.N. in the Congo.

Defense's recommendation to provide a multinational military advisory/assistance program under a U.N. umbrella (the so-called "Greene Plan") is under active consideration by the U.N. and the Congolese. The Plan is long range and is unlikely to have more than a psychological impact on the Congo situation for several years. If there is a change in government, the plan will probably be reexamined.

State Dept. review completed

